TRI-CITY APPLE USERS GROUP NEWS

Volume 4 Number 11 November, 1989

The Friendly Apple II Experts!

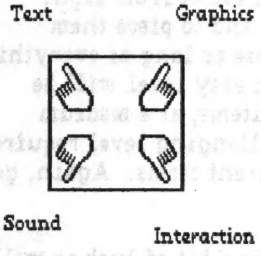
November to Feature a Feast of Sight and Sound

Are you ready for text, graphics, sound, and interactive computing all rolled into one? If so, the November 21 meeting is for you. Club member **Mara Schaeffer** is going to show us **Hyperstudio**.

This program has been getting rave reviews in the magazines, and figures to be really exciting to use. We'll also have our raffle, public domain, and, time permitting, Q&A.

Meanwhile, Kris Holtzclaw tells us more about Hyperstudio in the next article.

Hyperstudio



by Kris Holtzclaw

WHAT IS HYPERSTUDIO? To put it simply, Hyperstudio (HS) is an audiovisual database, which can be infinitely varied and detailed in just about any way you choose! HS is a collection of interlinked screens (cards) which are put together to make a "program" called a stack. On each card you can place various spots (buttons) which, if "clicked" with the mouse, will do a variety of functions or combinations of functions. Using these buttons, you can jump to another screen, play recorded (digitized) sounds, create special effects, or even launch a different program.

For example, let's make our first screen a map of the U.S. with each state outlined. We can set it up so that when you click any state, you will first hear a voice say the name of the state, then jump immediately to a new screen showing a map of the state along with a description of its history and statistics. Then you can click on one of the various cities on the state map and jump to a new screen showing the map of the city, with a digitized photograph of the City Hall in the corner! Remember that you don't have to move in a straight line, you can make the buttons lead you to any card in the stack or even out of HS and into another program. HS comes with a variety of graphics to use or you can import graphics from other programs. It allows you to write your own programs without having to be a programmer. There is a nice article in the Sept. 89 issue of Incider that gives an in depth description of Hyperstudio. The uses for this program are limited only by your imagination! Make sure you come to this month's meeting to see Mara Schaeffer's demonstration of HYPERSTUDIO!

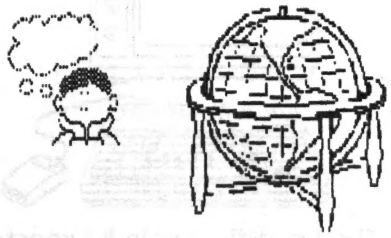
October was Appleworks' Month at TAUG

Last month, we inaugrated our terrific new home (Pasadena Central Library auditorium) by demonstrating several features of Appleworks, the recently improved "do everything" program from Claris.

Kathy Hammel showed us the **word processor**, **Cliff Ford** discussed the **data base**, and **Allen Stokke** covered the **spreadsheet**. We got to see some of the new features of Appleworks 3.0, and learned about a few "real live" applications.

Next Regular Meeting:	November 21, 1989 at Pasadena Central Library
Next Board Meeting:	November 30, 1989 at Cliff Ford's house
December Regular Meeting:	December 19, 1989 at Pasadena Central Library

It's Educational



Good - and Cheap - Software

by Kathy Hammel

One of the difficulties in getting started with educational computing in our classrooms is the relatively high cost of most software packages (not to mention low teacher budgets). While there are quite a few wonderful programs out there in the $40.00 to $70.00 range, what do you do if your budget only allows for $100.00 or $200.00 in computer programs?

Actually, it's not that bad of a problem. Believe it or not, there are some pretty decent programs out there for between $10.00 and $20.00. You won't necessarily get the great graphics or the extensive documentation you get with the expensive programs, but you'll still be able to amass a respectable library of useful disks.

For example, Vision Software makes a line of titles that retail for about $15.00 (discount houses sell them for as little as $10.00). The program I'm most familiar with is Thinking Skills. This program has four language activities: Logical Statements (syllogisms); Word Relationships (Analogies); Word Magic (Figurative Language); and Cause and Effect (Why things happen).

Students are given a brief lesson describing each skill, then are given some practice questions before attempting to use the skill just presented. The program includes a grade keeper so teachers have a ready record of student performance. Not fancy, but a great value and very useful. It is designed for students in the fourth grade and above. You may need to introduce the skills first in lecture and may need to teach some vocabulary along the way.

Another inexpensive series of software is The Spy's Adventure series from Polarware. This series is designed as a tool in teaching geography and includes programs for South America, Europe, Africa, Asia, North America, and the Pacific Islands. Not too unlike the Carmen San Diego series from Broderbund, The Spy's Adventure has your student playing the part of a spy tracking an enemy spy across the globe. Clues are given to help the student track the fiendish Dr. X to a specific geographical location. It's not as slick as the Carmen series, but it has some nice graphics and, at a retail price of around $18.00, it's about half the price. The Spy's Adventure programs also allow your students to play individually against the computer, against up to five other players, or to band together with others to form a spy network.

On the subject of inexpensive geography programs, there's one by Firebird Software called Road Rally USA that I picked for around $2.00 at a software sale. My best guess on catalog price would be around $12.00. In this program, your students choose a section of the USA to drive around (e.g. the Northwest or Southeast, etc.) and then use the maps (included with the program) for that area to route themselves to a specified destination while avoiding pitfalls along the way. My Junior and Senior High students love it and mid to upper elementary students will as well. This is an old program that's been around awhile, but it's a good one.

Another company that sports low cost software is Learning Technologies. I've gotten a fair collection of their offerings since the $12.00 to $18.00 price tags make them nearly irresistable. The programs, mostly made for students of eight years and up, help with basic math skills starting with thinking and problem solving (Pipeline and Monkey Business) and move on up to basic math and beyond to early algebra (Math in a Nutshell). The programs are easy to use, have strong, simple graphics and work well in a learning center where students can work individually or in cooperative pairs.

My favorite is Pipeline, a collection of problem solving tasks which require your student to route plumbing pipe so that all the items needing water are connected to a water spout without any leaks. The program allows the students to select from eight different pipe configurations, and to piece them together in any way they choose as long as everything gets connected. Students on an easy level will be asked to connect three or four items; at a medium level, five items; the most challenging level requires students to "plumb" seven different items. Again, good stuff, just not expensive.

Knowing what to order can take a bit of luck as well as lots of looking and asking around, but then, that's what the user's group is for. Ask us. We'll be happy to share our sources and resources.

BIG EVENT!

There may be a **modem** in your future. Next month (December), TAUG will offer a 2400 bps modem as a special member's only raffle prize

SUPER HOLIDAY VALUE

Highs and Lows

Applefest Report

by Ray Kidd

WEST COAST APPLEFEST '89 started on Friday (my pick for the best day to go, if you are only going one day) with a cute keynote speech from Apple's John Louis Gasse and then... a loud dispute at end of the question and answer period after Gasse's speech. The argument was between a Western Design V.P. and V.P. Gasse over the availability of high speed CPU chips for the GS.

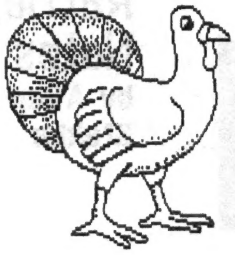
Gasse said the 65816 chip had "shortcomings" and there wasn't enough of a supply of the 8 megahertz to insure a steady "commercial source" ... the Western Design V.P. said, "Right now... today I have chips... try me...." (My thought is that I would like a faster GS from Apple, please.);On the clear upside of this "Fest," I went to San Francisco to see software and there was plenty of it.

There were the large displays of the discounted "top twenty" style software venders that made this AppleFest look like a large swap meet. But the companies who make the difference are the companies who write what they sell. My personal favorites were HYPER STUDIO from Roger Wagner and Beagle Brother's TimeOut additions to AppleWorks. Roger Wagner gave a killer demo of his almost finished HYPER STUDIO 2.0 to an adoring room full of software fans. Roger used this Hyper Card-like application to create several graphic stories with sound, animation, glorious color.

When HYPER STUDIO is finally finished, Apple GS stock will rise! The Beagle Brothers were at their booth demonstrating continuously - a really hard job - surrounded by AppleWorks fanatics with endless questions! The educational accent was the Apple Video Overlay Card. This neat piece of hardware is a video interface card for the GS or E. Saturday's keynote centered around the use of this hardware and allied software to create classroom videos. The secret hit of the show was the LAZER 16 bit "apple-work-alike" portable!

The sales hit was APPLEWORKS 3.0. Period. Wow! Pow! Yes, it does all those things you've read about! On the down side, sadly, the third year of AppleFest had the faint odor of last minute patch and underdone details in educational presentations (ESL and others), the absence of some companies (CLARIS and others) and name players (Woz), but the crowds came and enjoyed anyway!

Editor's Opinion



Is the //c+ a Turkey?

by Frank Bollinger

Is the Apple //c+ a bad computer? I don't think so. Especially when I consider that a //c+ runs four times as fast, contains twice the memory, and has three times the disk capacity of my first computer (an Apple II+). In addition, the //c+ with monitor, printer, and better software, only costs about one-third of what I paid for that II+ in 1982.

So, if it has all that (and more) going for it, what's the problem? The complaint seems to be that all the free software requires a 5 1/4 disk drive while the //c+ comes with a 3.5 drive.

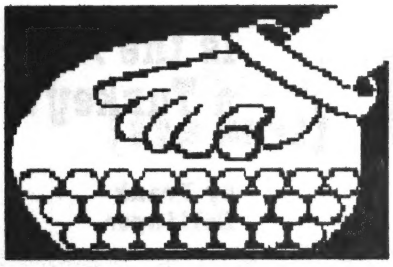
Is this really a problem? You have to answer that for yourself. If you're really serious about using your computer, you should be willng to buy some commercial software.

I suggest starting with Appleworks and Copy II Plus. For many people, these two programs will do everything they need. You can type letters, manage your financial affairs, and keep your important records with Appleworks. Copy II Plus lets you do all the necessary disk functions, such as format, copy, and delete. You can't imagine how useful these programs would have been when I first started. I now use both every day.

What about that disk drive? I virtually stopped using 5 1/4 disks approximately two years ago when I added two 3.5 drives to my //e system (I upgraded from the II+ to a //e in 1984). I had been frustrated by the small capacity of the 5 1/4 disks, and find the 3.5s to be far superior. About the only time I even touch a 5 1/4 now is when someone gives me a newsletter article on one.

If something you need only works on 5 1/4 disks, you can get an external drive for under $100. This is better than original //c owners who need a more expensive 3.5 drive for some of the newer software. //c+ owners have a much better computer. There are even reports that an internal hard disk is on the way.

Once you get used to it, there's virtually no limit to what you can do. "The power to be your best" didn't really start with Apple's other computer.



Raffle Notes
by Allen Stokke

The raffle for the November 21st Tri-City Apple Users Group meeting features an Apple IIe Enhancement Kit provided by TAUG. Installation of this kit broadens the usefulness of your IIe system. As an example, your system must be enhanced to operate a "mouse". Dennise Sullivan of Di-No will arrange for installation of this important kit in your IIe at no charge for the winner of this kit. **NOTE**: this particular raffle prize is available for **MEMBERS ONLY**.

The next offering looks like fun and challenging at the same time. Epyx has donated to TAUG the "Sub Battle Simulator". You are the Commanding Officer of one of six U. S. Navy subs or German Kriegsmarine U-Boats during the period from 1939 to 1945. You'll be ordered to perform one of 60 different missions, each one of which was based on actual historic scenarios. Of course, you attempt to survive throughout the entire war!

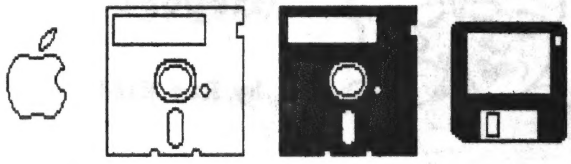
Our next offering is the "Apple IIGS System Disk User's Guide" and is a must for those of you with Apple IIGS systems. With your system you received a System disk. This guide was donated to our raffle by Di-No Computers and complements that system disk and makes it more useful to you. Should you select this item for your prize, we know that usage of this will improve your relationship with your GS. And if that doesn't blow your mind, I don't know what to suggest!

Last, Henry Chahin, with fiendish delight, has visited a cryogenic nightmare on the winner of "Suspended", published by Infocom, Inc. If and/or when you awaken from your state of cryogenic suspension, you are faced with a variety of challenging dilemmas which you can solve interactively with the program. The whole family can enjoy this one. It's too bad that Halloween is past!

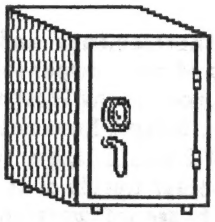
If you were at the October meeting, you know that Ray Kidd has risen to the challenge of introducing us to the computer world of the "Winkie"! We have one of these also available in our raffle. Delight yourself and your friends by flashing this in their face!

If any of you members have other ideas of items you would like to see in the raffle, jot them down on a piece of paper and pop them in the suggestion box. We can use your ideas!

Public Domain
by Richard Borup



This month's public domain will be a surprise. I'm in the midst of moving and may have to skip the Disk of the Month until December. However, we will have the regular public domain library at this month's meeting.



Treasurer's Report
by Cliff Ford

OCT 31, 1989
(1989 ONLY)

		Previous Totals	Current Month	Total to Date
INCOME				
Dues	$	1,516.00	105.00	1,621.00
Raffle		772.00	41.00	813.00
PD Sftwr		598.50	58.00	656.50
Misc		0.00	25.00	25.00
Total		2,886.50	229.00	3,115.50
EXPENSES				
Newsltr	$	1,282.33	245.85	1,528.18
Raffle		252.28	0.00	252.28
PD Sales		285.15	0.00	285.15
Misc		1,614.64	0.00	1,614.64
Total		3,434.40	245.85	3,680.25
NET INCOME		(547.90)	(16.85)	(564.75)
Bank Balance				$1,340.02

Glendale Swap Meet Next Month

TAUG will be at the next Glendale computer swap meet on December 17, 1989. It will be at the Glendale Civic Auditorium, 1401 N. Verdugo Road, from 10-4. Drop by and say hello.

Nominees, Volunteers and SIGs

Help Wanted

by Kris Holtzclaw

Nominations for President, Vice Pres., Treasurer, and Secretary are still needed! Please remember that all members are eligible and that by running, you could make the difference between a good group and a GREAT group! Volunteers are in even greater need! Very little time is required and TAUG cannot continue to grow and improve without YOUR help! Any item of interest to you may also be interesting to others in the group.

VOLUNTEERS ARE THE LIFE BLOOD OF OUR GROUP! Have you ever used a program and wondered to yourself, "How do other people use this program." If you are interested in learning more about specific programs, then a SIG (special interest group) is the place to learn it. We are trying to start various SIG's within TAUG. We have just one problem, we need SIG leaders!! During various program demos have you ever noticed that there are some very knowledgeable people in the audience! You may be one of those people, and WE NEED YOUR HELP!

If you have experience or even interest in a particular program or topic , PLEASE step forward and become a SIG leader! Sharing your knowledge and interests with others may be more rewarding than you think! Here are a few ideas: Appleworks (classic or GS) Financial Programs, Educational Software, Desktop Publishing, Hyperstudio, Telecommunications, DB Master, Programming, Music Studio, Power SIG (expert users).

Future Meeting Schedule

TAUG's regular meetings are held once a month in the Pasadena Central Library auditorium at 285 E. Walnut St in Pasadena.

All meetings start at 7 PM. The schedule through next June is:

. December 19, 1989 (Tuesday)

. January 18, 1990 (Thursday)
. February 22, 1990 (Thursday)
. March 15, 1990 (Thursday)

. April 19, 1990 (Thursday)
. May 15, 1990 (Tuesday)
. June 21, 1990 (Thursday)

Swap Section (free ads)

For Sale: Kensington System Saver GS - Nearly new - hardly used - for Apple IIGS only. $60. Bud Keville. Home (818) 447-5886, Work (818) 812-1430

Wanted: Enhanced //e or Macintosh, overseas model (250v 50c) for missionary use in China. Marvin Anderson (818) 795-3454

For Sale: Apple IIGS, 1 meg, 3.5, 5.25, Imagewriter, Graphicwriter, Deluxepaint II, VIP Professional GS, Bank Street Writer Plus, Print Shop GS, Mousetalk, and more! Perfect cond. Jerry Davis (805) 252-1635 6-9 PM

Wanted: Apple SCSI card. Must be Rev C. Frank Bollinger (818) 287-9125

Thanksgiving

by Frank Bollinger

Each year at this time, I like to take some time to thank everyone who provided articles during the past 12 months. This kind of participation is vital to our success and gives all of us valuable ideas for making better use of our computers.

As in previous years, we have received articles, tips, and suggestions from many people. In "counting our blessings," we want you to know how much we appreciate your help.

Anita Bornstein	Richard Borup	Jim Cass
Jack Duffendack	Paula Dutton	Cliff Ford
Bob Greenawalt	Kathy Hammel	Kris Holtzclaw
Howard Ialberg	Chris Keller	Ray Kidd
Gary Mann	Jim Plotkin	Mara Schaeffer
Allen Stokke		

Thanks again. We enjoyed sharing your adventures.

Believe It or Not!

We recently saw a computer store newspaper ad for a Macintosh Plus that said "monitor and drives extra."

Do you know about an interesting or useful way someone is using an Apple II computer? If so, we want to hear about it and print an article.

We welcome articles from readers on any related topic. The best way to submit is an Appleworks word processor file. ASCII text files, and typed or computer printed stories are fine too. If you have a modem, you can upload to Volume 2 of our BBS.

Remember, your experience WILL be interesting to others.

Deadline: Last day of each month to make the next issue.

Need more information?
Call Frank Bollinger at (818) 287-9125
or write to: 4297 Walnut Grove Ave
Rosemead, CA 91770

Tri-City Apple Users Group General Information

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Foothill Fwy (210)   ^
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|    |<-Garfield  |
-----*----------  <-Walnut St
|      |<-Garfield |
|      |          |<-Euclid
^ Marengo
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Pasadena Central Library Auditorium
285 E Walnut St
Pasadena
Meeting Time 7 PM

818-798-6300

TAUG Board Members

President/BBS	Kris Holtzclaw
Vice-President	Chris Keller
Membership	Kathy Hammel
Raffle	Allen Stokke
Public Domain	Richard Borup
Treasurer	Cliff Ford
Secretary	Danny Tejeda
Resources	Jerry Williams
Beagle Buddy	Ray Kidd
Newsletter	Frank Bollinger

TAUG BBS (213) 254-6153 (modem)
TAUG Info (213) 258-0281 (voice)

Are your Dues Paid? Label highlighted?
Contact Membership Chairman Kathy Hammel. Make checks out to TAUG. If paying by mail, send $15 check and membership form to our P.O. Box.

Tri-City Apple Users Group
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